

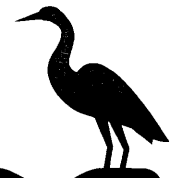
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# Corangamite Catchment Region

## Regional information and activities

The information and activities in this section of the *Waterwatch Education Kit* supplement those in the Statewide section of this Kit. One approach is to conduct the Statewide activities first and apply the Statewide questions and activities to your local focus. The following specifically regional activities can then be conducted within an understanding of the broader Statewide issues related to water quality and use.

The information and activities in this Kit supplement those in *A Community Water Quality Monitoring Manual for Victoria*.

## Corangamite Catchment Region

Corangamite Catchment Region is one of the ten Catchment Regions in Victoria.

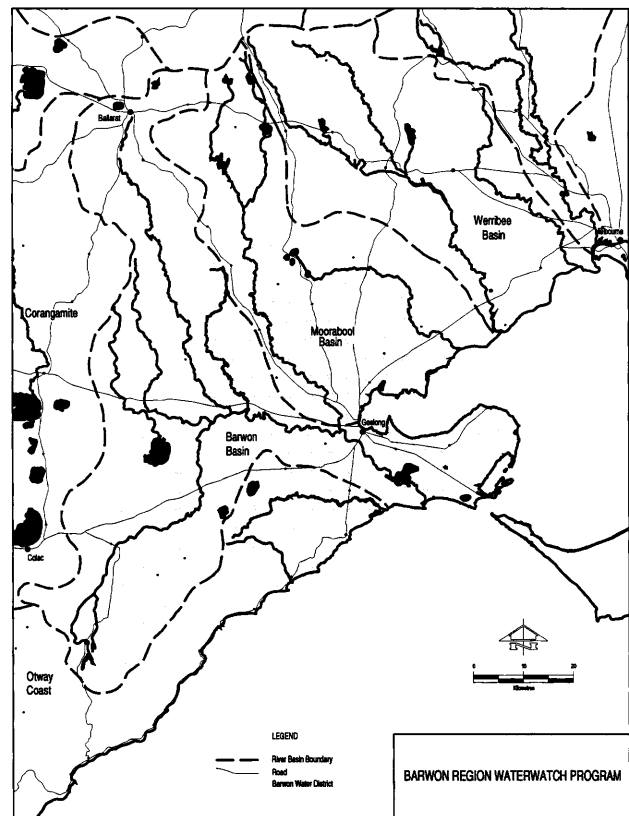
Four major drainage basins - Barwon Basin, Moorabool Basin, Otway Coast Basin and Corangamite Basin - are grouped together to make up the larger Corangamite Catchment Region. A Regional Catchment Strategy has been prepared for the Corangamite Catchment Region to assist with planning and management. Copies of this Strategy are available through your facilitator.

This section provides specific information and activities for the Corangamite Catchment Region. More focus is given to the eastern half of the region, the area covered by Barwon Water's Community Waterwatch Program.

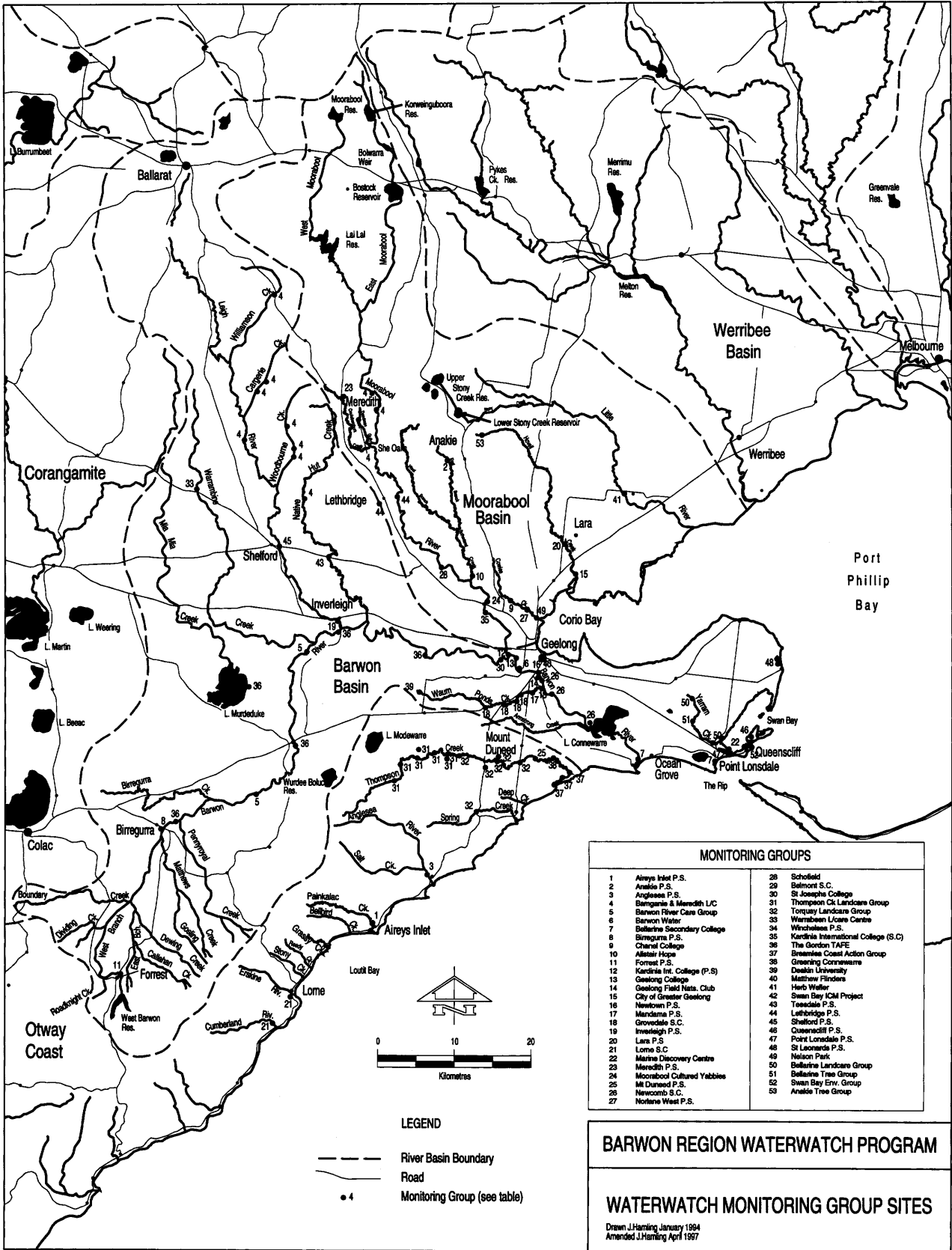
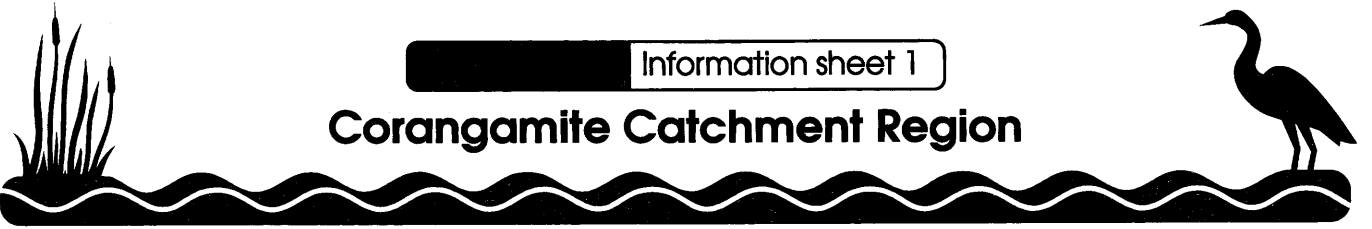


## Catchment and Land Protection Act

The *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* laid down a framework for a co-ordinated and strategic approach to catchment management across Victoria. Catchment and Land Protection Boards (CALP) were established in 1994 in each region to advise on the management of land and water resources in their region. The Act required that the CALP Boards prepare a Regional Catchment Strategy for their region. The desired outcome of each region's strategy is that the community manages land and water based on an understanding of and a commitment to sustainable use, conservation and rehabilitation of those resources. In July 1997 nine new Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs) with expanded roles replaced the CALP Boards. Each CMA is made up of local representatives from land and water management agencies, local councils and representative community groups [check]. The CMAs will use the Regional Catchment Strategies as their blueprint for integrating and delivering land and water management programs into the next century.



# Corangamite Catchment Region





## Corangamite Catchment Region

### **Yollinko Wetlands**

This wetland had all but vanished until recently. All that remained were the tough water plants that could survive the eating and trampling of cattle (Lignum and Water Couch).

The Yollinko Wetland has been restored as an initiative of Barwon Water. The project has been assisted by the State Government through employment training programs and many community groups have assisted with tree plantings. Boardwalks have been included to let visitors experience this fragile wetland environment without damaging it.

### **Yollinko Living Station**

Yollinko Living Station has been a cooperative venture between the Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-op Barwon Water, the City of Greater Geelong, and Highton Rotary. The gardens surrounding the Aboriginal midden exhibit plants used by the local Koori population.

### **The wetlands**

The wetland is a rich and diverse environment that complements the Barwon River. It is dependent on and urban stormwater runoff from Newtown which is directed into Balyang Sanctuary before discharging into the wetland site. Yollinko Wetland fills with the floods of winter and spring, then gradually dries out during summer and autumn. Its wetland plants have evolved in a cycle of flood and drought. There is a natural succession of plants as the water level changes. Green algae are a normal and important part of ephemeral wetlands as they provide food and cover for invertebrates such as water snails. In summer the algal mats dry out at the muddy margins.

### **Stan Lewis Walk**

This 2.5 km walking track between Queens Park and Princess Bridge has been the site of one of Geelong's largest revegetation projects. From the early 1990s, woody weeds such as Boxthorn and Ash have been removed and replaced with indigenous trees, shrubs and grasses. This project has received several state and federal environmental awards.

### **Fyansford Information Centre**

The centre has information displays about the Barwon River and its human and natural history.

### **Additional regional resources**

The following publications contain useful additional information specific to the Corangamite Catchment Region.

#### **Education materials**

*The Water Cycle*. J. Dart & M. Galletly. Barwon Water. 1993. This education kit includes the following activities and information:

Geelong's Water Supply History information, pages 27-28; activities, pages 33-35.

Geelong's Water Supply Today information, pages 37-39, 57; activities, pages 45-56.

Water Treatment information, page 59; activity, page 61.

Wastewater information, pages 63-65, 73-76; activities, pages 67-72, 77-81

Barwon River information, pages 83-85; activities, pages 87-93

Barwon River History information, pages 95-96; activities, pages 97-101

Barwon River Today information, page 103; activity, page 104

Environment Issues information, pages 105-110, 121, 131-132; activities, pages 111-120, 123-129

*Barwon River Environment Trail*. A unit of work for upper Primary School students. Barwon Water. 1997.

#### **Plant and animal lists**

*The Water Cycle*, pages 88-89

*Barwon River Flora*. Barwon Water booklet.

*Barwon River Fauna*. Barwon Water booklet.

#### **Brochures**

*Yollinko Park Aboriginal Garden*. Barwon Water.

*Barwon River Environment Trail*. Barwon Water.

#### **Cultural heritage**

*The Cultural Heritage of the Barwon River*. A study commissioned by Barwon Water. Bev Roberts. 1993.

*Do you remember? Memories of the Barwon*. Gordon College and Barwon Water.

These two publications are the sources of quotes in the Wathaurong and European information and activity pages of the Corangamite regional section of this Kit.

#### **Regional catchment strategy**

*Corangamite Regional Catchment Strategy*. Corangamite Catchment & Land Protection Board. June 1997.



# Wathaurong ways



## Key Learning Outcomes

### Level 4

#### SOSE: Place and Space

Analyse how people's beliefs & practices influence the ways they interact with places.

#### Time, continuity & change

Describe ways of life of people in the past.

Portray an event or occasion from a particular perspective.

#### Resources

Explain factors that affect resource use & development.

#### Natural & social systems

Describe responses of different elements (including people) to change in natural systems.

### Level 5

#### SOSE: Place and Space

Explain how peoples' use of natural environments changes over time.

#### Resources

Describe how resources are owned and accessed.

#### English

## Aims

- to develop understandings about how the Wathaurong people used waterways and water related resources in the region

## Materials

Information sheet 3: People who belong to the water

Student sheets 1A and 1B: Names and remains along the Barwon

Refer to the Aboriginal uses of waterways information and activity pages in the Statewide section of this Kit.

## Additional resources

Barwon River History information pages 95 in *The Water Cycle*. J. Dart & M. Galletly. Barwon Water. 1993.

*Barwon River Environment Trail*. A unit of work designed for upper Primary School students. Barwon Water. 1997. Activity 8: Yollinko wetland; Activity 10: Useful plants.

*Yollinko Park Aboriginal Garden* brochure. Barwon Water.

## Advanced preparation

- Duplicate the required number of the information and student sheet listed under Materials.
- Based on your students' reading levels decide whether the activity will be best done in small groups or individually, or whether you will read the information sheet out aloud to the class in sections, as related to each site to be mapped on Student sheet 1B.

## Activities

- Distribute Information sheet 2 and Student sheet 1A and 1B.
- Read out, or have students read the information and map the named sites onto Student sheet 1B.
- Students write a story about a Wathaurong family group, describe their lifestyle, especially the ways in which they collected, used and managed water and water related resources.
- Summarise as a class some ways in which the Wathaurong people used rivers and wetlands, and how these resources influenced their lifestyle.

## Extension

- Arrange for a local Aboriginal Cultural Officer to meet with your class.
- Visit the Yollinko Park Aboriginal Garden. The gardens surrounding the Aboriginal midden and mound displays plants used by the local Koori population.
- The Aboriginal names given to some areas of the river show their significance as sources of particular foods.
  - Boonea: Yallock (above Baum's Weir) - a place for trapping eels and fish.
  - Porrong: Goop (Boronggoop) - place of quails.
  - Liep: Liep (Lap Lap or Lib Lib, near Reedy Lake) - place of the waterbird Lewin's Rail.
  - Koo: N: Warre (Lake Connewarre) - mud oyster water.
  - Balliang - the place of bulrushes.

## Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative

About 1200 descendants of Victorian Kooris live in the Geelong - Otway region. The Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative based in Geelong is a centre of education and cultural awareness regarding Koori heritage in the area.



